

# VISN 5 CARES Markets

Market Designation: VISN 5 is proposing 3 CARES Markets as follows:

Market	Geographic Area	Rationale	Shared Counties
<b>Baltimore Market</b> Code: 5A	15 counties in Maryland including the Maryland Eastern Shore and counties surrounding Baltimore <b>15 Total Counties</b>	The VA Maryland Health Care System (VAMHCS), consisting of the Baltimore, Fort Howard and Perry Point medical centers, serves the Baltimore Market. VAMHCS supports five CBOCs, two of which serve the Maryland Eastern Shore. Of the total 15 counties in this Market, the Eastern Shore comprises 8 rural counties, accounting for 13.3% of the market enrollees. The Bay Bridge provides access from the Eastern Shore counties with an identifiable referral pattern to the Baltimore Medical Center. The remaining 7 counties surround the Baltimore Metro area and the northeastern quadrant of Maryland along US 95.  <b>Facilities:</b> VA Maryland Healthcare System (VAMHCS): Baltimore, Perry Point, Fort Howard	VAMHCS provides services to enrollees from bordering counties in Delaware and Pennsylvania (VISN 4), but not to the extent to justify development of a shared market.
<b>Washington Market</b> Code: 5B	5 counties in Maryland, 9 counties in Virginia, and 1 District of Columbia encompassing the Washington Metropolitan area <b>15 Total Counties</b>	VAMC Washington serves the Washington Market. Washington supports two CBOCs. VAMC Washington is the preferred site of care for all 15 counties comprising the Washington metropolitan area. (Please note: Although the Charlotte Hall CBOC is linked with the Baltimore medical center, the three rural southern counties of Calvert, Charles and St. Marys it serves were included in the Washington Market since the enrollee preferred site of care from these counties is VAMC Washington.)  <b>Facilities:</b> Washington	Washington provides services to enrollees from neighboring Virginia counties in VISN 6, but not to the extent to justify development of a shared market.
<b>Martinsburg Market</b> Code: 5C	5 counties in Maryland, 8 counties in Virginia, 2 counties in Pennsylvania and 8 counties in West Virginia <b>23 Total Counties</b>	VAMC Martinsburg serves the Martinsburg Market. Martinsburg supports 6 CBOCs. Although the Martinsburg Market is the largest of the three markets in size, it provides services to less than 20% of the network enrollees. Of the 23 counties comprising the Martinsburg Market, 8 are urban, 8 are rural, and 7 were identified as highly rural (less than 50 vet pop/square mile).  <b>Facilities:</b> Martinsburg	Martinsburg provides services to enrollees from neighboring VISN 4 counties in Pennsylvania and neighboring VISN 6 counties in Virginia, but not to the extent to justify development of a shared market.

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## Zip Code Analysis

When we reviewed our county veteran population analysis, county assignments to our three markets were very clear. We discussed doing a zip code analysis on three counties that were shared between the markets – St. Marys, Calvert and Fauquier. However, the IP/OP unique patients totaled 1096, 605, and 429 respectively in each of these counties. We felt the veteran population numbers did not justify a zip code analysis.

## Stakeholder Involvement

VISN 5 was the first Network to send out informational CARES letters to our Stakeholders seeking their input. The next CARES Stakeholder Meeting to discuss the Market Plans for VISN 5 will be held at the Network Office on October 3, 2002. A variety of CARES presentations have also been planned at each of the VA medical centers throughout VISN 5. For further information about upcoming CARES presentation or to request a CARES presentation, please contact the VISN 5 CARES Hotline at 1-800-463-6295, ext. 7384 or send an e-mail to the VISN 5 CARES Help Desk at: [VISN5CARESHelpDesk@med.va.gov](mailto:VISN5CARESHelpDesk@med.va.gov).